

Message from the Chief Financial Officer

I am pleased to present the *Chief Financial Officer's Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2002* for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). We are accountable for the level and quality of the services we provide to the American people; for supporting the mission and goals of our parent agency, the Department of Health and Human Services; for complying with legislation enacted by Congress; and for meeting the governmentwide President's Management Agenda.

For FY 2002, Congress provided the CDC with \$5.5 billion of budgetary authority and ATSDR with \$108.5 million. I am proud to report that our agencies have received their fifth consecutive unqualified opinion from our independent auditors, a recognition of the importance we ascribe financial stewardship and sound business practices. I feel that CDC's impeccable scientific integrity and its excellent record of fiscal stewardship and accountability are integrally related, each supporting the other.

CDC and ATSDR strive to support HHS' crucial public health mission and the President's Management Agenda, which was announced during FY 2001. We have and will continue to challenge ourselves to be leaders in excellent business practices, practices that will yield discernible results. CDC, in following its Financial Management Excellence Initiative, has been working to enhance and improve its already strong fiscal management. I would like to call attention to some of the key developments during FY 2002.

- CDC established an executive steering committee to bolster the agency's focus and help us achieve the objectives stated in the President's Management Agenda. CDC also appointed a full-time coordinator for issues related to the President's Management Agenda.
- CDC continued its work as an integral partner in HHS' initiative to develop a unified financial management system that will reduce the number of financial systems across the department, consolidate redundant financial operations, and interface the accounting system with other business systems such as those used for grants, travel, and personnel.



- CDC has continued striving to enhance and improve its fiscal management activities in areas such as core accounting competencies, professional staff recruitment, financial systems, training, and customer service.
- CDC supported the President's E-Government agenda by participating in seven E-Government projects; e-Vitals, contributed to HHS' E-Government initiatives, and continued improving and updating the CDC Web site, which consistently draws more than 5 million different visitors per month.
- CDC also took steps to implement the "restructuring and delayering plan" that emphasizes reducing the number of managers, organizational layers, and the time it takes to make decisions; increasing the span of control; and redirecting employees to customer service positions.
- CDC received approximately \$250 million for buildings and facilities, largely for the ongoing funding and continued construction of new facilities at the Roybal and Chamblee Campuses and for the designing and starting construction of other key efforts to upgrade the agency's physical infrastructure.

The fiscal information contained in this report, together with the performance information reported under the Government Performance and Results Act, offers documentation that CDC is a good investment for taxpayers and that the dollars we spend yield valuable results. CDC and ATSDR will continue to make significant contributions in improving the quality of life for all Americans and in supporting national efforts to bolster our homeland security and increase our ability as a nation to both prevent and respond to disease outbreaks, public health crises, and terrorist events.

We appreciate your interest in our *Chief Financial Officer's Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2002*, and we hope that you will find this document to be a concise and informative overview of our accomplishments, finances, operations, and organization.



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and Acting Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer
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